

## ***Shafter~Wasco Irrigation District***

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August 6, 2003

The Honorable Ken Calvert, Chairman  
House Water and Power Subcommittee  
1522 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
Via fax 202.226.6953

The Honorable Grace Napolitano  
Ranking Member  
House Water and Power Subcommittee  
1522 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
Via fax 202.225.0027

***Re: Friant Water Users Authority Support for HR 2828***

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member Napolitano:

The Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District supports the concepts imbedded within HR 2828 to provide solutions to water challenges within California by reauthorizing CALFED in a balanced manner.

The Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District (SWID) serves the agricultural water needs of some thirty eight thousand (38,000) acres and 500 mostly small family farms in the Shafter-Wasco area, County of Kern. SWID water supplies are also relied upon by the cities of Shafter and Wasco to supplement ground water supplies through in lieu banking.

The CALFED Program continues to be the best platform to address statewide improvements to water supply and conveyance infrastructure while at the same time enhancing the environment. In the SWID's service area, CALFED will provide the authorization necessary to continue feasibility studies for water storage opportunities. The SWID's service area is water short. Additional storage would provide opportunities to stabilize water supplies, provide flood control, and recreational, environmental, and water quality exchange opportunities.

Additional concepts included in HR 2828 such as competitive grants program for desalination and water recycling projects, coordination of federal activities including water transfer permit streamlining and imbedding accountability in the implementation of CALFED will further enable California to solve many of its water supply problems.

The Honorable Ken Clavert  
The Honorable Grace Napolitano  
House Water and Power Subcommittee  
August 6, 2003  
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Please feel free to contact me to further discuss the benefits associated with HR 2828. Your commitment to resolving California's water supply issues is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
JERRY L. EZELL  
General Manager-Secretary

ILE:ac

cc: The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
The Honorable Barbara Boxer  
The Honorable Devin Nunes  
The Honorable George Radanovich  
The Honorable Bill Thomas  
The Honorable Dennis Cardoza  
The Honorable Calvin Dooley  
The Honorable Richard Pombo  
Mr. Steve Hall, Executive Director, ACWA c/o Wendy Phillippee